

1st Quarter Independent Reading Assignment

English 8

Book Requirements:

- Minimum 150 pages
- Approved by teacher (if it's a book not found in the NMS Media Center)

Assignment Details:

1. Complete a detailed Story Map (attached)
2. Complete 3-paragraph Persuasive Writing Assignment:
 - a. Introduction stating why you do OR do not recommend this book. (3-4 sentences minimum)
 - b. 1 body paragraph stating two reasons WHY you do OR do not recommend this book.
 - i. Begin with a topic sentence.
 - ii. Should contain a minimum of two specific examples/details to support for each example (1 reason + 2 examples; then another reason + 2 examples)
 - iii. Body paragraphs should contain a *minimum* of 5-7 sentences.
 - c. Conclusion restating your recommendation (to read or not to read, that is the question ☺) and why. (3-4 sentences minimum)

Grading/Points Possible:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1. Story Map | 20 Points | (see below) |
| 2. Persuasive Essay | 24 Points | (see back) |
| Total Q1 IRA Grade: = 44 points | | |

Due Date: _____

Story Map Rubric:

<u>Points Possible:</u>		<u>Criteria:</u>
A	20-18	All parts of the map are filled in. Exceptional effort and detail is demonstrated.
B	17-16	All parts of the map are filled in. Adequate effort and detail is provided. More details could have been included, especially in the plot model area.
C	15-14	A few parts of the map may be missing. Average effort and detail is provided.
D	13-12	Several parts of the map may be missing. Insufficient effort and/or detail is provided.
Failing	11-below	Many parts of the map are missing; little to no effort was made.

8th Grade Quarter 1 Independent Reading Assignment

CATEGORY	4 – Above Standards	3 – Meets Standards	2 – Approaching Standards	1-0 Below Standards
Position Statement	The position statement provides a clear, strong statement of the author\'s position on the topic.	The position statement provides a clear statement of the author\'s position on the topic.	A position statement is present, but does not make the author\'s position clear.	There is no position statement.
Support for Position	Includes 3 or more pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, real-life experiences) that support the position statement. The writer anticipates the reader\'s concerns, biases or arguments and has provided at least 1 counter-argument.	Includes 3 or more pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, real-life experiences) that support the position statement.	Includes 2 pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, real-life experiences) that support the position statement.	Includes 1 or fewer pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, real-life experiences).
Organization	Demonstrates effective organization with intro, body, and closing statement/summary	Demonstrates adequate organization with intro, body, and closing statement/summary	Demonstrates incomplete organization; may be missing an intro, body, or closing statement/summary	Demonstrates incomplete organization; missing intro, body, or closing statement/summary
Transitions	A variety of thoughtful transitions are used. (Three or more are used.) They clearly show how ideas are connected.	Transitions show how ideas are connected, but there is little variety. (At least three are used.)	Some transitions work well, but some connections between ideas are fuzzy. (Two are used.)	The transitions between ideas are unclear OR nonexistent. (One or less is used.)
Writing Conventions	Author makes none or 1 error in grammar, capitalization, punctuation or spelling that distract the reader from the content.	Author makes 2-4 errors in grammar, capitalization, punctuation or spelling that distract the reader from the content.	Author makes 5-7 errors in grammar, capitalization, punctuation or spelling that distract the reader from the content.	Author makes more than 7 errors in grammar, capitalization, punctuation or spelling that distract the reader from the content.
Sentence Structure	Uses a variety of sentence structures (simple, compound, complex).	Uses a variety of sentence structures (simple, compound, complex) most of the time.	Uses sentence structures that are repetitious.	Uses incomplete sentence structures or mostly simple sentences; disjointed or no paragraphs.

Comments:



STORY MAP

Student's Name: _____

Title _____		Author _____	
Setting	Mood	Major Character(s)	
Conflict		Minor Character(s)	Point of View
Resolution		Theme (underlying message)	
Introduction		Climax	
Rising Action		Falling Action	
Conclusion			